

Poughkeepsie-Dutchess County Transportation Council
Technical Committee Meeting Summary

Tuesday, November 25, 2014

Dutchess County Planning Department (Main Conference Room)
27 High Street (2nd Floor), Poughkeepsie, NY

1. Introductions – See attached list.

2. Announcements – Mark Debald (PDCTC) made the following announcements:

- FTA Section 5310: NYSDOT has not issued a call for projects for the FTA Section 5310 program (Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities), which provides capital and operational assistance for projects that expand transportation options for non-profit and public agencies that serve seniors and persons with disabilities. Our combined TMA (tri-county area) apportionment for FFY 2013 and 2014 is \$666,071. We will issue a public notice when the application period is opened by NYSDOT and jointly prioritize projects with the Orange and Ulster County MPOs.
- FFY 2013 and 2014 FTA Section 5307 Funding: It appears that the UZA 1 allocation dispute between New York, New Jersey, and Connecticut is nearing a conclusion, which gives us some hope that the UZA 89 sub-allocations will occur within the next few months. NYSDOT is currently waiting for feedback from NJ Transit on the proposed split between the States for the UZA 89 allocation, which totals \$20.1 million for FFY 2013 and \$20.3 million for FFY 2014. If they agree on these numbers, we should be able to have resolutions ready by our March 2015 Executive Committee meeting. Needless to say, this delay is creating issues for our designated recipients (DC Public Transit and City of Poughkeepsie), so we are exploring the possibility of using a portion of the TMA's balance of unallocated FFY 2012 Section 5307 funds to support near-term preventive maintenance and operating assistance for DCPT (approx. \$1.7 million). UCTC may also be seeking \$1.5 million for Adirondack Trailways and \$1 million for UCAT capital needs. One of the issues is that only \$2.7 million is available (which will expire at the end of FFY 2015). The TMA is discussing how to balance needs and resources. Again, the reason for this dilemma is the impasse over 5307 funding.
- Mark asked if anyone had seen the *60 Minutes* episode on the nation's aging bridges and roads; several members reported they had. It was noted that this issue is getting more attention in the media.

3. Public Participation

- Tom Weiner (NYSDOT R-8) reported that there have been some staffing changes in the Local Projects Unit. Martin Evans is now heading LPU, and Carolyn Ryan has moved to the Design-Build group. Carolyn will be looking to program FEMA monies to replace 32 bridges in the region. Tom also said that NYSDOT is looking to improve project delivery. The current goal is to deliver 75% of construction phases on-time. To accomplish this, he would like to establish regular meetings with members of the Technical Committee, NYSDOT LPU (Martin Evans), and the project sponsor(s). He suggested the group meet three times a year (January, June/July, October) in an effort to curtail

the practice of rolling projects into the next year. Perhaps we can work together to fine tune schedules to make sure they are realistic. The Committee enthusiastically supported this initiative.

4. Draft PDCTC Bylaws

Mark reported that the new draft Bylaws update voting membership based on data from the 2010 Census, clarify the roles and responsibilities of committees and subcommittees, make general administrative updates to current language, and revise the guidelines for amending/changing new and existing transportation projects (as per the recommendation from the 2013 Federal Certification Report). Mark recapped the need for the new bylaws to align with Federal transportation law and to satisfy recommendations from the recent [Federal Certification Report](#) recommendations (an evaluation of an MPO with regard to federal requirements). Mark stated that a 45-day public notice was issued on October 24, 2014, with a closing date of December 8th. We have not received any comments to date. The bylaws will be put before the Executive Committee at its December 17th meeting (1:30 p.m.) at the Locust Grove Estate in the Town of Poughkeepsie. We did make changes to the draft bylaws based on the feedback we received from members at the October Technical Committee meeting. These included adding a Table of Contents and adding County representatives to the Non-voting membership list. These changes will be proposed as Resolution 14-07.

Cynthia Ruiz (Dutchess County Public Transit) explained that public transit entities are supposed to have representation on the Executive Committee, and since our County Executive chairs the Council, and the City of Poughkeepsie Mayor sits on the Executive Committee, that we more than meet the requirement.

5. FFY 2014-2018 TIP Amendment #14-03 (Transportation Alternatives Program Awards)

On October 27, 2014, Governor Cuomo announced the awards for the Federal Highway Administration's (FHWA) Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP). Four projects in Dutchess were selected, totaling over \$3 million in federal funding: City of Beacon Main Street Accessibility Improvements (PIN 876125), Town of Hyde Park Route 9 Redesign (PIN 876123), Town of Red Hook Route 9 Sidewalk (PIN 876124), and Wappingers Falls Village Center Pedestrian Safety Project. Amendment #14-03 adds these four new pedestrian-oriented, local projects to the FFY 2014-2018 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).

Emily Svenson (Hyde Park) said that she is grateful to the County and NYSDOT for their planning assistance and helping to put the grant request together.

6. SFY 2015-2016 UPWP

Mark explained that we are beginning to develop the Draft 2015-2016 UPWP, which will cover the period from April 1, 2015 to March 31, 2016, coinciding with the 2015-2016 State Fiscal Year. The UPWP serves as the official statement of work identifying the federally funded planning activities to be carried out by the Council. The UPWP includes descriptions of planning tasks and resulting products, a schedule for completing tasks, the cost of the work, sources of funds, and identifies which organization will perform each task. The UPWP includes a variety of planning activities that address on-going and

emerging issues related to maintaining and improving the region's transportation system and overall quality of life. The Council updates the UPWP annually. Funds used to support the UPWP come from Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and Federal Transit Administration (FTA). For the 2015-2016 program year, over \$911,000 in federal planning funds will be programmed by the Council (this includes the annual allocation of \$661,000 plus \$250,000 from our un-programmed balance). Many of the tasks from the current UPWP will carry over to the next program year, though there are some minor changes – particularly to the federal planning emphasis areas. Mark reviewed some of the particular tasks with the group and directed everyone to see the UPWP summary.

Bob LaColla (Town of Fishkill) clarified that our next Metropolitan Transportation Plan, which must be adopted by the end of 2015, will be drafted under the new federal transportation law, MAP-21. Mark affirmed that statement and said that the biggest change is that MAP-21 places focus on performance measures. He also stated that Orange and Ulster Counties will also be updating their MTPs and we are all sharing the same planning horizon year of 2040.

Bob LaColla reported that a request to lower the speed limit on Baxtertown Road (CR34) was denied. There have been two recent fatalities on the road. It appeared that the County (DPW) may have treated the request as one to reduce the speed of the road (only), but other safety measures could have been suggested. Mark stated that the Council might be able to perform a focused safety assessment in 2015, depending on staff availability.

Mark said that the County is looking into creating a Complete Streets policy, similar to the Town of Fishkill's. Ray Oberly (Town of Clinton) said that the Town of Clinton never adopted the rural road standards of the Cornell Local Roads Program as they would have trouble designing and building the Town's roads to that standard along the entire length of the road.

Bob Balkind (DC DPW) said that we should be looking for every opportunity to apply complete streets policies, and build them when we can.

Mark said that New York State has started a freight plan and that the TMA (Dutchess, Orange, and Ulster County Transportation Management Area) will piggyback on the State effort to create our own. There is FHWA funds that will be used to support this effort in next year's UPWP.

Emily Svenson asked what the TI45 (Regional Sustainability Planning) time code is used for, and Mark replied that it is a placeholder for time implementing the Mid-Hudson Valley Regional Sustainability Plan.

Bob LaColla asked if we can use funds for community planning, and Mark said that we do – one being the consultant-supported Upper Route 9G Corridor Management Plan.

7. Project Updates

- Beacon Center City Parking Analysis: Mark noted that the Department finalized the Beacon parking analysis, which is available on our website (front page and under publications). The study looked at current parking utilization and future needs, and developed a set of recommendations to improve

parking capacity and vehicle turn-over in and around the City's Main Street corridor.

- Upper Route 9G Corridor Management Plan (CMP): The contract with VHB is being finalized and should be ready in a few weeks. As a reminder, the CMP will focus on the four-mile segment of Route 9G from CR 78 (Broadway/West Kerley Corners Rd) in the Village of Tivoli/Town of Red Hook to Route 199 (West Market Street) in the Town of Red Hook. The project is a response to local concerns about transportation safety along the 9G corridor in the Town of Red Hook and Village of Tivoli. In addition to this priority corridor, the CMP will also evaluate overall safety and operations on two secondary corridors in the area: the section of CR 78 (Broadway) from the Hudson River to Route 9G in Tivoli and CR 103 (Annandale Rd) from Route 9G to Route 199 (West Market St) in Red Hook.
- The PDCTC completed field work on the Safety Assessment for CR19 (Slate Quarry Rd) in the Town of Rhinebeck from Route 9G to White Schoolhouse Rd.
- MTP update has begun. Titled *Moving Dutchess 2* for now, the new plan will follow the basic organization of the current plan with some minor updates to demographic and system data. We will need the latest information on bridge and pavement conditions from NYSDOT. We will use the same 2040 horizon, so that we are in synch with Orange and Ulster counties, which are also updating their plans. We will not have to demonstrate air quality conformity. Reviewing our performance measures will be a critical part of the update.

8. Public Participation

Bob Balkind referred to the earlier conversation regarding NYSDOT's LPU and project timelines. He said that there are 8-9 projects that need a time extension for the PE phase and that he hoped the extensions would be responded to favorably, as there would be a significant effect to the DPW program if the extensions are not approved. He believes that it will be highly beneficial to meet with NYSDOT's LPU and suggested that the Technical Committee have a more active role in the ongoing management of projects, both to help project sponsors get necessary assistance and spur NYSDOT to help move the DPW program along.

Cynthia Ruiz announced that the County Executive's 2015 budget proposes Dutchess County Public Transit to be housed in DCDPW, rather than the Planning Department. She also said that notices have been sent to municipalities to contract for Dial-A-Ride service. The rate is \$230 per day and municipalities can contract for as much service as they wish – even if it's just one day per year. She also said that multiple municipalities can enter into a contract together. In addition, a new service called Flex Plus is proposed for 2015. Flex Plus would operate outside of the Dial-A-Ride and outside of the regular Flex routes. The cost would be \$1.75 per trip. Cynthia also reported that Public Transit is starting a pilot program in Dial-A-Ride to increase ridership. Municipalities with Dial-A-Ride service will be able to pick-up riders from other municipalities, as long as the other municipality contracts for the service and passengers from the contracted service are still able to ride. For instance, if the Town of Fishkill contracts for service on Monday and the Town of Wappinger contracts for service on Tuesday, a Town of Wappinger resident could call for Dial-A-Ride service on Monday, as long as no Fishkill resident loses a seat.

9. Upcoming Meetings:

- Executive Committee: **Wednesday, December 17, 2014 at 1:30 p.m.** (Locust Grove Estate, 2683 South Rd, Poughkeepsie, NY 12601).
- Technical Committee: Wednesday, January 28, 2015 at 10:00 a.m.

Attendance List:

	First Name	Last Name	Affiliation	Phone Number
1	Bob	Balkind	DCDPW	845-486-2911
2	Don	Beer	Town of Poughkeepsie	845-790-4736
3	Jennifer	Cocozza	PDCTC	845-486-3617
4	Mark	Debald	PDCTC	845-486-3600
5	Bob	LaColla	Town of Fishkill	845-831-7800
6	Ray	Oberly	Town of Clinton	845-266-5096
7	Cynthia	Ruiz	DCPT	845-473-8521
8	Emily	Svenson	Town of Hyde Park	845-489-2286
9	Tom	Weiner	NYSDOT	845-431-5723
10	Marlene	Stein	MTA	212-878-2080
11	Barbara	Zulauf	Town of Beekman	845-249-8448